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STEP 302: PROVIDING MEMBERSHIP STATUS IN THE COMPUTING CAPACITY MARKETPLACE SERVER FOR A PLURALITY OF MEMBER COMPUTERS IN THE NETWORK

STEP 304: RECEIVING IN THE COMPUTING CAPACITY
MARKETPLACE SERVER AN INDICATION OF NEEDED COMPUTING
CAPACITY, INCLUDING A BID AMOUNT, FOR A BUYING
COMPUTER OF A PLURALITY OF COMPUTERS IN THE NETWORK

STEP 306: RECEIVING IN THE COMPUTING CAPACITY MARKETPLACE SERVER AN INDICATION OF AVAILABLE EXCESS COMPUTING CAPACITY, INCLUDING AN ASK AMOUNT, FOR A SELLING COMPUTER OF A PLURALITY OF COMPUTERS IN THE NETWORK

STEP 308: MATCHING IN THE COMPUTING CAPACITY MARKETPLACE SERVER THE BUYING COMPUTER'S BID AMOUNT WITH THE SELLING COMPUTER'S ASK AMOUNT

STEP 310: ENABLING THE SELLING COMPUTER TO PROVIDE AT LEAST A PORTION OF THE AVAILABLE EXCESS COMPUTING CAPACITY TO THE BUYING COMPUTER IN RESPONSE TO THE MATCHING STEP

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STEP 322: PROVIDING MEMBERSHIP STATUS IN THE COMPUTING CAPACITY MARKETPLACE SERVER FOR A PLURALITY OF MEMBER COMPUTERS IN THE NETWORK

STEP 324: RECEIVING IN THE COMPUTING CAPACITY MARKETPLACE SERVER AN INDICATION OF IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE COMPUTING CAPACITY, INCLUDING AN ASK AMOUNT, FOR A SELLING COMPUTER OF THE PLURALITY OF COMPUTERS

STEP 326: RECEIVING IN THE COMPUTING CAPACITY
MARKETPLACE SERVER AN INDICATION OF IMMEDIATELY
NEEDED COMPUTING CAPACITY, INCLUDING A BID AMOUNT, FOR
A BUYING COMPUTER OF A PLURALITY OF COMPUTERS IN THE
NETWORK

STEP 328: MATCHING IN THE COMPUTING CAPACITY
MARKETPLACE SERVER THE BUYING COMPUTER'S BID AMOUNT
WITH THE SELLING COMPUTER'S ASK AMOUNT

STEP 330: ENABLING THE SELLING COMPUTER TO PROVIDE AT LEAST A PORTION OF THE AVAILABLE EXCESS COMPUTING CAPACITY TO THE BUYING COMPUTER IN RESPONSE TO THE MATCHING STEP

FIG. 3

340 STEP 342: MATCHING IN THE COMPUTER CAPACITY MARKETPLACE SERVER THE BUYING COMPUTER'S BID AMOUNT WITH THE SELLING COMPUTER'S ASK AMOUNT STEP 344: IDENTIYING ALL SELLERS WHO HAVE AVAILABLE EXCESS COMPUTING CAPACITY DURING THE ENTIRE PERIOD THAT THE BUYER HAS IDENTIFIED AS NEEDING COMPUTING CAPACITY STEP 346: SELECTING THE SELLER HAVING THE LOWEST ASK AMOUNT STEP 348: IF THE BUYERS BID AMOUNT IS GREATER THAN OR EQUAL TO THE SELECTED SELLER'S ASK AMOUNT, THEN IDENTIFIYING THE BUYER AND SELECTED SELLER AS MATCHED STEP 350: IF THE BUYER'S BID AMOUNT IS LESS THAM THE SELECTED SELLERS'S ASK AMOUNT, THEN IDENTIFYING THE BUYER AS A NEGOTIATING BUYER AND THE SELECTED **SELLER AS A NEGOTIATING SELLER** STEP 352: SIGNALING THE NEGOTIATING BUYER THAT A NEGOTIATING SELLER HAS BEEN FOUND , SIGNALING THE NEGOTIATING SELLER THAT A NEGOTIATING BUYER HAS BEEN FOUND, AND MONITORING NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE NEGOTIATING BUYER AND THE NEGOTIATING SELLER STEP 354: IF THE NEGOTIATING BUYER AND THE NEGOTIATING SELLER CHANGE EITHER OR BOTH THE BID AMOUNT AND THE ASK AMOUNT SO THAT THE AMOUNTS MATCH, THEN IDENTIFYING THE NEGOTIATING BUYER AND THE NEGOTIATING SELLER ARE MATCHED STEP 356: REDUCING THE MAGNITUDE OF THE QUANTITY OF AVAILABLE EXCESS COMPUTING CAPACITY FROM THE SELLER, AS INDICATED IN THE DATABASE 105, BY THE AMOUNT OF COMPUTING CAPACITY PROVIDED BY THE SELLER TO THE BUYER STEP 358: IF THE AMOUNT OF THE COMPUTING CAPACITY PROVIDED BY THE SELLER TO THE BUYER IS LESS THAT THE QUANTITY OF NEEDED CAPACITY BY THE BUYER, AS INDICATED IN DATABASE 105, THEN REPEATING STEPS 342 TO 356

FIG. 4

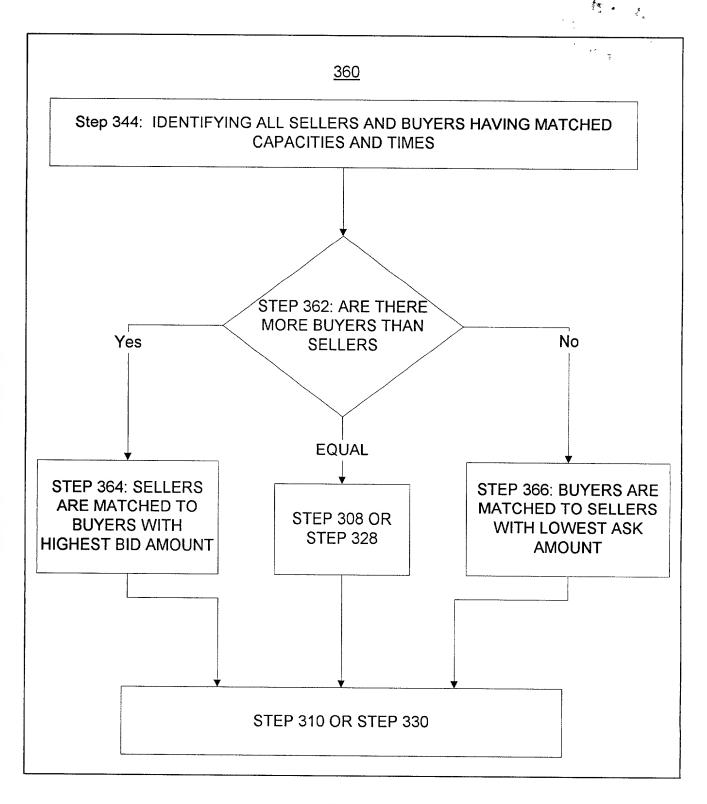


FIG. 5